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Proposed Counsel for Official Committee of Tort Claimants

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

In re:

PG&E CORPORATION

-and-

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY,**

Debtors

Case No. 19-30088 (DM)

Chapter 11

(Lead Case)

(Jointly Administered)

- ☐ Affects PG& E Corporation
☐ Affects Pacific Gas and Electric Company
☒ Affects both Debtors

**All papers shall be filed in the Lead Case,
No. 19-30088 (DM)*

**DECLARATION OF KAREN
LOCKHART IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
OF OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF TORT
CLAIMANTS PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C.
§§ 503(b)(3)(F) AND 105(a) TO
ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF
TORT COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019
Time: 9:30 a.m. (Pacific Time)
Place: United States Bankruptcy Court
Courtroom 17, 16 Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

I, Karen Lockhart, pursuant to section 1746 of title 28 of the United States Code, hereby declare that the following is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief:

1. I am the chair of the Official Committee of Tort Claimants (hereafter, the “**Tort Committee**”), in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases of PG&E Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (collectively, the “**Debtors**” or “**PG&E**”). I submit this declaration in support of the *Motion of Official Committee of Tort Claimants Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 503(b)(3)(F) and 105(a) to Establish Procedures for Reimbursement of Expenses of Tort Committee Members* (the “**Motion**”).

2. The statements in this Declaration are, except where specifically noted, based on my personal knowledge or opinion.

3. On February 15, 2019, the U.S. Trustee appointed eleven tort claimants (the “**Members**”) as an official committee pursuant to section 1102(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.¹ The identity of each Member, the fires in which they suffered losses, and the nature of their losses is described below:

Committee Member	Fire	Nature of Losses
GER Hospitality, LLC c/o Adolfo Veronese	Nuns	Business Loss
Angela Loo	Camp	Wrongful Death
Kirk Trostle	Camp	Business and Home Loss
Tommy Wehe	Camp	Wrongful Death
Karen Gowins	Camp	Home Loss
Agajanian, Inc. c/o Gary Agajanian	North Bay	Business Loss
Susan Slocum	Ghost Ship	Wrongful Death
Samuel Maxwell	Ghost Ship	Personal Injury
Wagner Family Wines- Caymus Vineyards c/o Michael Carlson	Atlas	Business Loss
Greg Wilson	Tubbs	Personal Injury
Karen Lockhart	Cascade	Wrongful Death

4. Members of the Tort Committee reside throughout Northern California from the Bay Area and Santa Rosa to Sacramento and Paradise. One Member resides as far away as Portland, Oregon.

¹ On February 21, 2019, the United States Trustee filed the *Amended Appointment of the Official Committee of Tort Claimants* (ECF No. 530).

1 5. To balance the travel hardship associated with in person meetings, the Tort
2 Committee plans to alternate meetings in locations throughout Northern California, including Santa
3 Rosa, Napa, Sonoma, Sacramento, Chico, and the Bay Area.

4 6. The Tort Committee also plans to conduct certain meetings telephonically to reduce
5 the travel burden and limit expenses.

6 7. Despite efforts to minimize costs associated with travel to meetings and hearings,
7 the Members will necessarily incur travel expenses including: tolls, parking, taxi fares, fares for
8 rideshares services such as Uber and Lyft, hotel stays, airfare, and meals while traveling.

9 8. The Members will also incur additional expenses in connection with their service
10 on the Tort Committee, such as: printing and photocopy charges, postage, and overnight delivery.

11 9. While the Members are represented by personal injury counsel, the Members are
12 not seeking reimbursement for their personal counsel's expenses unless those expenses are incurred
13 by personal counsel as a proxy for the Member.

14 10. The Members personally pay these expenses in performance of their duties on the
15 Tort Committee.

16 11. The amounts that have and will be incurred by the Members in performance of their
17 duties on the Tort Committee are substantial to the Members and requiring Members to wait an
18 extended time for reimbursement would impose an undue hardship.

19 12. The amount of expenses that the Members will seek to be reimbursed will likely be
20 significantly less than the amount sought by the estate professionals in these cases.

21 13. The expenses incurred by Members are also predictable, mostly consisting of travel
22 expenses as a result of Committee meetings. If Members were also required to file monthly
23 applications for approval of the administrative expense claims, these applications would be very
24 similar every month, and the process would be tedious, inefficient and costly.

25 14. The issues in these Bankruptcy Cases including the treatment of the many tort
26 claimants are extremely important to the Members of the Tort Committee and active involvement
27 by the Members will be critical to an equitable and just resolution.

1 I declare and verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best
2 of my knowledge, information, and belief.

3 Executed this 10th day of March, 2019, at Yuba City, California.

4
5 
6 Karen Lockhart